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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:  
**SHINICHI KIMURA ET AL.**

Serial No.: **10/696,155**

Filed: **29 OCTOBER 2003**

For: **DISK DRIVE, STORAGE  
MEDIUM, AND PORTABLE  
PRECISION DEVICE**

§ Attorney Docket No. **JP920020172US1**

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Examiner: **UNKNOWN**

Art Unit: **UNKNOWN**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

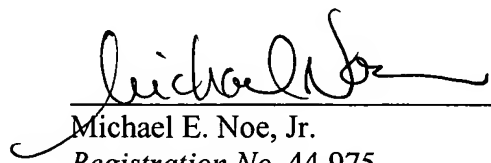
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

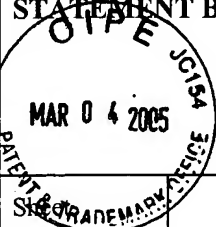
Sir:

Applicants request that the information listed on the attached (Substitute) Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Office during the pendency of the above-entitled application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b) within three months of the filing date of the application, or before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits. No fee or certification is required.

No fee is believed to be necessary; however, in the event that any fee is required, please charge it to **HITACHI Global Storage Technologies Deposit Account Number 50-2587**.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> 				<b>Complete if Known</b>		
				Application Number	10/696,155	
				Filing Date	10/20/2003	
				First Named Inventor	SHINICHI KIMURA ET AL.	
				Group Art Unit	UNKNOWN	
				Examiner Name	NOT YET ASSIGNED	
1		of	1		Attorney Docket Number	JP920020172US1
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	IDS Doc #	U.S. Patent Document Number	Name of Patentee or Applicant			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	IDS Doc #	Office	Foreign Patent Document No.	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Date of Publication	English Translation
	AA		JP9231324	TOSHIBA CORP	09-05-1997	Yes – Abstract Only
<b>OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	IDS Doc #	Include the name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published				English Translation
Examiner Signature					Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.